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THE N.A.S.C. QUARTERLY

SPRING 1994

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THE N.A.S.C. QUARTERLY

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's going to be a hard act to follow, but I will do the best I can. The job Walter and his team did the past two years are commendable and there are a number of highlights during his term of office. None more important than the YN's program at the Long Beach Numismatic, Philatelic and Sportscard Exposition. Lynda Richard and Bill Randolph have been the mainstay, but would like some help. All it takes is a few hours of your time on Saturday. And, of course, none of this would be possible without the help and generosity of Paul L. Koppenhaver, President of the Long Beach Show Management.

NASC celebrates its 40th birthday this year. Forty years of numismatic bliss. NASC has had a great past and hopefully the future will hold the same. Let's hold a birthday party at the GSCS!

An area of concern for NASC is the financial support we receive from the Golden State Coin Show (GSCS). The shows for the past four years have been successful, however, the show is not generating the needed monies to operate NASC. Therefore, we need to come up with some new ideas on how to raise money. Don Foster heads up the Ways and Means Committee. See him if you have an idea on how to raise money LEGALLY.

Sally Marx has distributed the gold drawing tickets for the October 1st drawing. I hope all of you will sell a few books and, of course, buy a few books. This has got to be the easiest way for a club to raise money for its treasury. So get out there and sell, sell, sell.

It should be fun time during National Coin Week (NCW), April 17-23, 1994. This year's theme -- "The World's Largest Treasurer Hunt". The ANA is sponsoring NCW and hopes collectors, dealers and clubs will add to the fun by placing into circulation old and rare coins and currency. Some time during NCW drop some Buffalos, "U" nickels, silver dimes Indian Head cents or Wheaties into circulation. When buying something, pay with a $2.00 bill, an Ike dollar or Susan B. Anthony dollar. It's interesting to buy an item for less than a dollar, pay with a Susan B. Anthony dollar and wait for the sales clerk ask for more money. It should be an interesting week. Take part and have some fun.

Until next time.

William J. Grant
President

EDITOR'S NOTES

Welcome to the Spring issue of the *NASC Quarterly!* This issue marks our entry into 1994 and our 40th Anniversary. We have a colorful numismatic history that will be highlighted in this and coming issues. Much of the historical data came from James Waldorf; J.H. McInnis; Lorna Lebold; and NASC Historian, Leonora Donald.

The 1990's are posing increasing problems for the hobby, local coin clubs and the collector. Coin show attendance is falling at a dramatic rate. Clubs are experiencing a down sizing in membership and monthly meeting attendance. Many collectors are saying, "Coin collecting is just not fun anymore." The ANA, NASC and Coin Clubs nationwide are looking into the matter.

So, "Is there a solution?" Well, not exactly, but there is a starting point. Thirteen ANA Regional Coordinators (your Editor Pro-Tem from Region 8) met at the Early Spring Convention in New Orleans to develop a strategy for dealing with this problem. What came about after two days of sharing ideas was nothing short of a miracle -- THE 1ST ANNUAL COOPERATIVE COIN CLUB PLANNING WORKSHOP, ENTITLED **"BREATHING GREATER LIFE INTO COIN CLUBS."**

And, what a start! The purpose of the seminar, to be sponsored by the ANA and local/regional associations nationwide at various regional coin shows and conventions, is to generate ideas that will strengthen coin clubs. Furthermore, the seminar engages in several diagnostic activities to give participants a basis for increasing the health of the hobby, **primarily by revitalizing local clubs and numismatic organizations.**

Since each club has needs and benefits, the seminar focuses on such topics as: reasons people join coin clubs; member friendliness of the club; club life survey; opportunities or areas for improvement; and criteria for starting up a coin club are just a few.

Because I feel strongly "A New Breath of Life Into Coin Clubs" is particularly needed in California, I have therefore tentatively arranged for this **FREE SEMINAR** to be jointly sponsored by Long Beach Expo promoters, the ANA and NASC on Saturday, October 8th at the Long Beach Expo Convention. The seminar will be from about 1:00-5:00 P.M. and is open to all. It will be conducted by Mr. Sam Deep, instructor at the ANA's New Orleans planning workshop. I hope every NASC member club will encourage at least one member/delegate to this "eye-opening" coin club revitalizing seminar. Our hobby future is in your hands. With the proper building tools, vision if you like, we can ensure future club and hobby growth!

(continued on page 29)

NASC HONORS MEMBERS

By Walt Ostromecki

Fifty-three members, guests and friends attended our Annual Awards Recognition Dinner Event and Installation of Officers on Sunday, January 30, 1994 at Joe Petrelli's Steak House in Culver City.

Those in attendance enjoyed a delicious steak dinner arranged by Chairman William Grant. Table favors were donated by Freddie Grant and Ethel Lenhert. Master of Ceremonies was past president and "jokester" Albert Hall. The awards presentations were under the direction of Chairman Paul Borack.

Special guests at the event included ANA Governor, Helen Carmody, who also served as installing officer; her husband Don; Michael Aron, owner of MARC Auctions of San Clemente; and PNG President, Paul Koppenhaver.

The highlight of our annual dinner gathering is the presentation of Association Awards that honor a variety of numismatic talents to NASC. Recognition is conferred on individuals and clubs selected as "BEST" in such areas as writing and service to both their local clubs and the NASC.

Outgoing President Walt Ostromecki presented 25 years membership pins to 11 members: Max Humbert, John Love, Ken Goldman, S.A. Gouveia, Adna Wilde, Mulford Simons, John Gulde, Donald Apte, Evelyn Sadler, Duffy Waldorf, Dr. George Vogt and Q. David Bowers.

Accepting the honor by mail, Mr. Wilde commented: "Checking my records I find that I have attended 18 NASC Conventions/Dinners since I became a member. As an official of the ANA, I wanted to be sure that your members knew that we cared...I regret that I will not be able to join you in California for this recognition." David Bowers, President of Bowers and Merena Galleries, Inc., commented: "I regret that my schedule does not permit me to attend the January 1994 Awards Recognition Dinner, but I am deeply appreciative of the honor being bestowed. I have enjoyed being a NASC member for 25 years! My gosh, is it really 25 years! Time does go quickly."

Contributors to the *NASC Quarterly* were recognized by retiring editor, Jeff Oxman. Those recognized with a special copper convention medal were: Martha Stevenson, Ken Levy, Dillon Frost, Dr. Sol Taylor, Dr. Walt Ostromecki, John Devine, Olga Widness, Lynda Richard and Helen Carmody.

The Karl M. Brainard Memorial Literary Awards, named in honor of our founder, are given to authors who contribute the three best original articles published during the preceding year. First Place went to John Devine for "Liberty Seated Coinage". Second Place was garnered by Dr. Sol Taylor for "How Many Are There, Anyway". Dr.

Installing Officer Helen Carmody with 1994 President Bill Grant.

Richard Goodson Award Winner Awanda Ayers accepts the trophy from last year's recipient Harold Katzman.

Walt Ostromecki received Third Place for "The Young Numismatist, Our Hobby Future".

The President's Trophy is awarded to the member club which consistently produces the best monthly club newsletter. The editor of the winning club gets to keep and display the large trophy for the coming year. He or she is also entitled to reproduce the NASC logo on the newsletter masthead. Competition for 1993 was indeed keen. Twenty-nine club bulletins were in the running. Choosing the best and two runner-ups was the most difficult task facing the Awards Committee. The Los Angeles Coin Club will be the home of the Trophy for 1994. The Editor of the LACC "Wire Edge" is Ed Casaus. Second Place certificates were given to: The Verdugo Hills Coin Club, Bob Thompson, Editor; and Whittier Coin Club, Esther Bromberg, Editor. Third Place certificates went to: The Glendale Coin Club, Carol Booth, Editor; and INSLA, Murray and Syd Singer, Co-Editors.

Maurice M. Gould was truly a great numismatist and NASC booster. It is in his memory that the award for the Outstanding Junior Hobbyist is named. (Note: The memorial name was changed in 1989 *for one time only* to the Corky Ayers Memorial.) Last year's winner, Zeve Akerling, expressed his appreciation at being honored. He then went on to read the accomplishments of the new recipient Jason Albanese. Jason was nominated by the Glendale Coin Club.

The association's newest award -- MEMBER OF THE YEAR -- is presented, though not necessarily yearly, to a MEMBER who has given outstanding services and selfless dedication to the NASC during the past 12 months. The honoree cannot be an officer, board member or committee chairman in that year. The selection is at the sole discretion of the president. The individual is recognized for countless volunteer efforts to the association without the thought of reward. President Ostromecki selected Michael Aron, who sponsors a yearly auction to benefit the NASC and actively promotes the hobby and NASC at his own expense.

Anticipation builds as the moment draws near to reveal the name of the Richard P. Goodson Trophy winner. This is the association's highest honor and the ultimate acknowledgment of an individual's service and dedication to numismatics through the NASC. Last year's winner, Harold Katzman, passed the honor onto a stunned Awanda Ayers. A nearly speechless Awanda said, "Receiving this honor was a very special moment in her life."

During the installation ceremony, Helen Carmody not only charged the incoming officers with their duties, but equally charged the members with their responsibility to their officers, "to help them promote the hobby in these trying times." President William Grant accepted the challenge and former president Walt Ostromecki expressed his thanks to all by paraphrasing the famous quote

Zeve Akerling presents Junior Achievement Award to Jason Albanse.

Michael Aron is honored with First NASC Member of the Year Award.

from John Kenney's Inaugural: "Remember, ask not what the NASC can do for you, but what together we all can do for the coin collecting hobby and the NASC in the coming years." He received a standing ovation as he was presented with a Past President's pin and Life Membership card.

Before adjourning the evening's festivities, a special drawing was held for Club Representatives who attended the Board meetings during 1993. The three winners of 2-peso gold coins were: Albert Hall, Jerry Yahalom and Murray Singer.

William Grant thanked everyone for coming and extended a special thanks to Paul Borack, Walt Ostromecki and Nona Moore of Galaxie Designs for the multitude of engraved awards. The witty Nona thanked Bill and remarked: "I now have instructions for the electric spoon, but I didn't order one." Sounds like shades of the 1983 banquet!

The NASC Welcomes Its Newest Members!

Les Hartnelt, Garden Grove, California
Charles Proeber, Long Beach, California
Arthur Mehlman, Northridge, California
Aaron Mehlman, Northridge, California
Alex Kitnich, Santa Barbara, California
Dillon Frost, North Hollywood, California
Mark Watson, Palmdale, California
Richard Glenn, Tarzana, California
Albert 'Bo' Smith, Iola, Wisconsin
Helen Carmody, Huntington Beach, California
Kevin Marshall (Junior Numismatist)
Francisco Cox (Junior Numismatist)
Darlene Cox (Junior Numismatist)
Santa Maria Coin Club, Santa Maria, California
Tom Sheehan, Seattle, Washington
Edward Metzger, Racine, Wisconsin

NASC BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 1994

All Board Meetings are held at the Culver City Veteran's Auditorium (Culver and Overland) -- time 1:30 P.M. All members are invited.

Saturday, April 16, 1994
Sunday, August 7, 1994
Sunday, October 30, 1994

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AUCTION ODYSSEY
PART II

By Murray Singer

Part I, published in the *Quarterly* Fall/Winter 1992 issue, chronicled the events leading to the formation of "Coins At Auction", the auction company owned and operated by George Bennett and the author from February 1961 until the untimely death of Mr. Bennett in November 1981. In its 22 years of existence, the firm exerted a strong influence on local coin collecting and was an integral part of the Southern California numismatic scene.

Synopsis

George and I had been close friends during our association in several coin clubs. In two of these, the Los Angeles Coin Club and the West Valley Coin Club, we worked together handling the club auctions. As Auction Chairman, I handled the mechanics of the sale and, of course, George was the talented auctioneer. It was here that he honed his skills and which led to his becoming one of the nation's premier coin auctioneers, conducting some of the most prestigious sales for the top coin firms in the country.

Following a sale conducted at a Torrance coin shop requested by its owner, in which George cleared out numerous show cases item by item until they were all empty, George and I split the 10% commission that had been agreed upon and which amounted to $120. Exhilarated by our first commercial sale, George and I decided on the way home to try promoting coin shop auctions as a kind of extension of our coin club activities. We enjoyed the excitement and just couldn't believe we could have so much fun and get paid for it. Our enterprise, however, was stymied by the usually small size of the coin stores limiting the possible audience. The one exception we found was the Arch Farmer shop in Hollywood. We contracted with Arch for a store sale; and although beset with many difficulties, including having to move the sale out of Hollywood where we learned auctions were prohibited, the sale was successfully concluded.

The most important lesson that we learned from this sale was the necessity of obtaining a City Auctioneer license in order to conduct an auction anywhere in Los Angeles. George immediately applied for and received his, certifying him as a licensed and bonded auctioneer and our firm became legal and official.

Here is the Rest of the Story -- Part II

Following our successful Arch Farmer Hollywood sale and with no other contract in sight, we conceived the idea of promoting our own

catalogued sale. I convinced ten of my San Fernando coin dealer customers to consign 45 lots each for the auction. The reason for the odd amount was that George and I figured that we could comfortably handle a 450 lot sale. My selling point in getting the consignments was that each dealer's shop name would be listed several times throughout the catalogue. I had already envisioned the format, and the advertising was a big inducement. The opportunity to liquidate some slower moving inventory was a compelling reason also for their participation.

The catalogue listed alphabetically each dealer's store name above a group of his lots followed by another dealer's name and a number of his lots. After reaching the last name on the list, the process was repeated so that every consignor's name was mentioned several times. Aside from the advertising, which was as promised, the system headed off any complaints from the consignors about the positioning of lots in the sale. Most important to George and me was that we had a 450 lot auction to conduct.

The dealers displayed flyers in their stores and shop windows, talked up the sale with their customers; and with ten stores involved, we were sure of a good audience. George and I publicized the sale at various clubs and helped create a lot of interest. We rented Creston Hall in North Hollywood and on February 19, 1961, our firm produced its own first formal auction. The catalogue was only a couple of mimeographed sheets stapled together which were distributed at the door together with the bid cards. Our physical set-up was again that of the usual club sale. The lots were displayed on long tables for each viewing. We didn't have display cases. George and I sat on a podium. He called the sale and I recorded the bids.

The size of the audience was impressive and despite the fact there was no mail bidding, prices were excellent. There were no holds or minimum bids in the sale, a practice we continued throughout the life of our company. As to the prices, remember this was 1961 and collector coins were hot. The sale was very successful and everyone was happy, particularly the consignors. I don't remember the sales figure, and we didn't print a price realized. I'm sure we made a nice profit, but the satisfaction we felt after conducting our own auction was payment enough. Moreover, it was a simple sale. With no mail bids, all lots were picked up and paid for before we left the hall. Expenses were minimal; hall rental plus a few dollars for printing. There were no security guards, refreshments or anything else. We had no employees. George and I handled the operation assisted by our wives, Ruth Bennett and Syd Singer. They didn't charge us anything, and we decided to keep them for the next 22 years at the same salary. They developed into top professionals. They handled most of the auction details and kept our company in business. Eventually we learned

about costs -- catalogue printing, advertising, mailing, hall rentals, personnel, refreshments, security guards, accountants and general business expenses. And we learned about headaches -- mail bid returns, lost packages, renegers, grade disputes, disgruntled bidders and consignors, late payments and all the other inherent difficulties. Ask any auction house. They all share the same problems, in various degrees. The first assistants we hired to handle the coin viewing as well as other auction details were good friends of ours, Lucy and Dick Bowers. Although our lots were still displayed on long tables, they were now housed in glass-topped cases for general viewing. Upon request, Dick and Lucy handed out individual coins for closer inspection (and monitored their return). Later on, we added additional personnel as our business grew and some of the higher priced material required a one-to-one showing. Dick and Lucy stayed with us throughout our firm's existence and were extremely important to the operation.

As mentioned earlier, we borrowed our physical set-up from our experience with coin clubs. This we embellished considerably as we went along. We instituted a bidder-friendly system in which a separate manila envelope (with duplicate invoice attached) was allocated to each floor bidder. My bid book was loose-leaf with spaces ruled off on each page for lot number, mail bid and any other pertinent information. When George hammered down a lot, I entered the successful bidder's number and price realized. As soon as a page was completed, Dick picked it up and Syd (or Lucy) entered the lot number and bid price on the bidder's invoice and placed the coin in the corresponding envelope. This meant that a bidder could pick up his lots and check out at any time during the sale instead of having to wait until the end, a practice we inaugurated that was very much appreciated. Floor bidders were required to pick up their lots at the sale and terms were cash. Most customers were collectors whom we knew, but our newspaper ads in the local papers drew a number of bidders from the general public. In time, we developed a national mailing list from our advertising in *Coin World* and *Numismatic News*. Eventually, we distributed around 800 catalogues and received a respectable number of mail bids. Our sales targeted the average collector who belonged to a coin club or was putting a collection together on his own. The investor boom was just starting, and we were probably the only commercial auction firm in Southern California at the time which catalogued a sale of such inexpensive material. Other firms couldn't afford it and neither could we if our livelihoods depended on it. As it happened, by the time George retired from his regular employment, his services were in constant demand as one of the nation's premier coin auctioneers. In my case, after leaving the wholesale coin supply business, I went to work for one of

the larger rare coin and bullion firms for the next 16 years. Nevertheless, we continued our auctions as an avocation because of the notoriety, excitement and enjoyment (plus, of course, the additional income) it brought. We began making quite a bit of money in the late seventies. We had increased our commission along the way, and rising coin prices inflated our volume and consequently our profit. We had also grown with the times, employed more personnel, hired security guards, provided refreshments and other amenities. However, despite the changes, we managed to retain the original flavor of the company and the ideas we started with.

Journey's End

We put our firm to bed with our last sale in November 1981. George had been ill for some time, and we hired a guest auctioneer for the last couple of sales. George passed away a short time later. In 22 years, "COINS AT AUCTION" presented a little over 140 sales. Probably our total sales volume does not begin to approach that of a single Bowers & Merena or Superior auction. However, our firm filled a specific need. Our sales offered a novel vehicle for the buying and selling of popular priced material; something that was unavailable elsewhere. It was a valued source for acquisition and an important sales outlet for many collectors; and, as such, we were welcomed by an intensely loyal following. Our auction audience invariably included many individuals who attended our sales much as they attended their various clubs, not just to buy coins but for the social values of meeting and mingling with friends and acquaintances. Upon reflection, that is not a bad legacy.

Epilogue

Early in 1982, I was contacted by a close friend and local coin dealer, Michael Aron, who said he was interested in starting an auction firm with the same format and in the same locality of ours. I welcomed the idea of a reputable firm continuing our type of operation and told Mike I would help him get started and did so. I am happy to report that Michael Aron Rare Coin Auctions is now in its eleventh year and in March 1993 conducted a N.A.S.C. Sale. Of course, the material Mr. Aron offers is more in line price-wise with today's economic necessities; but his auctions retain the physical appearance of our sales -- the tables with their gleaming display cases and lamps, the system he employs and even his catalogues, much improved but still in size and general appearance almost identical to ours. Attending his auctions invariably brings on a sense of deja-vu.

It is pleasant to think that some of the essence and flavor of "Coins at Auction" is still around.

CENTSIBLE FACTS
THE DICE GAME

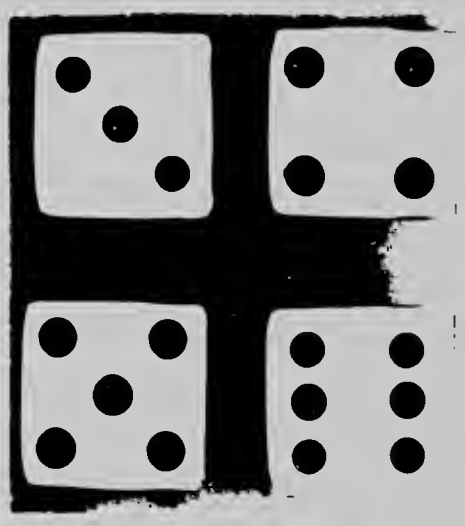
By Martha Stevenson, NLG

The first crap game in America was played in New Orleans, Louisiana, introduced about 1812 by Bernard Xavier de Marigny de Mandeville, who had seen the game played in France and England where it was called "Hazards". Since the nickname for a Creole at that time was "Johnny Crapaud", the game became known as "Crapaud's Game" and later was shortened to "Craps".

Marigny had inherited a large fortune while he was still in his teens. Early in life he used the money productively buying plantations, organizing a bank and financing a canal to establish ferry service across Lake Pont-Chartrain. He ventured into politics, lured by power. By the early 1800's, Bernard Xavier de Marigny de Mandeville had become New Orleans' biggest property owner. The colony could grow nowhere without making him wealthier and more powerful. He was the richest young man in America and one of the most adventurous. His friends nicknamed him "Golden Boy" and remarked that what he did best was enjoy himself.

But Marigny became obsessed by the game of craps. Night after night he collected as many of his friends as he could, and the room rang with the sound of rolling dice, mumbled prayers and Marigny's yell of glee when he won. His excitement rose to an especially high pitch when there were gold coins in the pot. He would pick them up and wrap them carefully in his handkerchief.

Out of necessity, Marigny invented a system for paying off his gambling debts by writing the amount owed across a piece of paper above



the signature of Bernard Xavier de Marigny de Mandeville. Then the paper was passed around the room for the initials of all the players to assure the winner of full payment.

Eventually Marigny lost his fortune playing craps. A loss of $25,000 at a single sitting was not uncommon, and many men of wealth and prominence poured large sums of money -- from $50 to $100,000 -- across the gaming tables. Sometimes Marigny was convinced he was being

punished by the devil. After a bad night of large losses, he would quietly retire in his private quarters and reach in his special compartment where he kept a velvet-lined chest (small trunk) which contained the gold coins he never gambled away.

Marigny was forced to cut a street across his property and sell lots on both sides to pay his debts. Maps show this street was named Craps Street and later renamed Burgundy Street. Miserable with himself for bringing disgrace to the name of his family and with his business failures, Marigny died almost penniless. His treasured gold coins were evenly divided among his heirs as keepsakes.

THE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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PAST PRESIDENTS ON OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY

1955-56 Scott McCormac*
1956-57 Earl Whitehead*
1957-58 W.R. Fanning*
1958-59 Charles Ruby*
1959-60 C.A. Dunbar*
1960-61 Ben Williams*
1961-62 Richard Goodson*
1962-63 George Bennett*
1963-64 Thomas Wood
1964-65 Karl Brainard*
1965-66 Murray Singer
1966-67 Walter Snyder*
1967-68 Edwin Borgolte*
1968-69 Foster Hall*
1969-70 Peggy Borgolte
1970-71 James Betton
1971-72 Benjamin Abelson
1972-73 William Wisslead
1973-74 Gordon Greene*
1974-75 James Waldorf
1975-76 Dr. Sol Taylor
1976-77 Raymond Reinoehl*
1977-78 Myron McClaflin*
1978-79 Richard Lebold
1979-80 J.H. McInnis
1980-81 Nona Moore
1981-82 Paul Borack
1982-83 Dr. Thomas Fitzgerald
1983-84 Albert Hall
1984-85 Albertus Hoogeveen
1985-86 Phyllis Duncan Ellis*
1986-88 Lorna Lebold*
1988-89 Corky Ayers*
1990-91 Charles Colver
1992-93 Dr. Walt Ostromecki
* Deceased

THE NASC GOLD DRAWING BENEFIT

By Murray Singer

I was amazed that, in the face of so many clubs having financial difficulties due to the loss of membership, poor meeting attendance, etc., that such a simple fund-raising solution would even be questioned. More amazing was learning from Chairperson Sally Marks' report that only 25 of the 50 member clubs actively participate in the program. Without any supporting evidence, I would venture a guess that a number of the non-participants are those most in need of the funds to be derived.

The N.A.S.C. Member Clubs Benefit Gold Drawing is exactly what its name suggests. It is a drawing conceived to raise money for member clubs. The N.A.S.C. treasury does not benefit in any way. In fact, last year it sustained a loss of $85.00. Nevertheless the Board voted to continue the drawing in 1994.

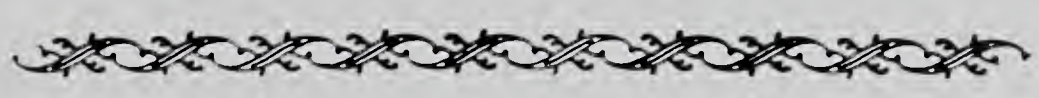
Books of tickets sell for $2.00; $1.00 stays with the club and the other $1.00 goes to the N.A.S.C. to cover the cost of the Gold and to defray the expense of ticket printing, mailing of prizes, etc. If the dollar proceeds per book exceed the expenses, 100% of such profit is divided among the participating clubs. Isn't it remarkable that 25 clubs ignore such an easy fund-raiser? Two dollars for a book of 5 tickets with 5 chances to win one or more of 35 gold coins? Last year the 29 clubs that did participate sold between 2,700 and 2,800 books. One club, the Long Beach Coin Club, sold over 700 books. Another sold almost 400 books, but even those that sold considerably fewer benefitted their treasuries to some extent. Perhaps the clubs that do not join find selling tickets to their members difficult. Many members belong to several clubs; many have small memberships with no one willing to accept the responsibility of handling the ticket sales. All these clubs need is a little more aggressive marketing effort.

The successful ticket sales are not the result of limiting solicitation to club members. All members have outside interests. They are employed in offices, business or profession, etc. and have numerous social contacts. The public would jump at the opportunity of having 5 chances to win one or more of 35 gold coins for a $2.00 investment. It is a cinch to sell ticket books.

This writer regularly sold 40 ticket books a year in his office, and people came to him to buy a book as soon as they learned he had them for sale. All that is necessary is for a club to have a few members take 5 or 10 books along on their day-to-day occupations and they will be amazed how fast the tickets will be snapped

up. All they have to do is offer them. Of course, a big selling pitch is that the odds of winning are so much greater than in most drawings because of the small number of books sold in comparison to the number of prizes. Of course, it should be mentioned that any unsold books taken by member salesmen should be returned.

Last year's total of 2,700 books can easily be increased to 4,000 with a little more effort and additional club participation. This will ensure the continuation of the drawing, eliminate the expense to N.A.S.C. and the addition of some much-needed funds in club treasuries. Your club can be one of those that benefits. Isn't it worth a try? (The books are ready for distribution in 1994. See your club NASC representative for details.)



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33RD ANNUAL
COIN-O-RAMA

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APRIL 24, 1994

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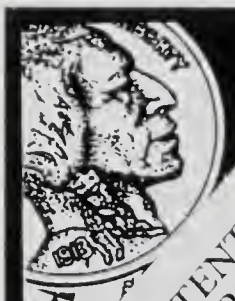

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COINS, COLLECTORS AND GOVERNMENT

By Robert McCarthy

There have been extensive discussion and many letters written by interested people in the past months concerning our coinage. The opinions have been as varied as the number of people involved, and though I don't agree with everyone's opinion, I am extremely pleased that our numismatic community is making their voices heard.

As an enthusiastic numismatist myself, I too have an opinion about our coinage. As I am well aware of the "cliche" concerning opinions, I will nevertheless express my point of view for your consideration.

Throughout my four year tenure as a professor at a leading Southern California College, I taught and became friends with many students from countries other than the United States. A significant number of these students, aware of my passion of numismatics, obtained coinage for me from their homelands, and as a result I now have coinage from Nigeria, England, China, France, Mexico, Ireland, Guatemala and Iran.

Although my interests are not primarily directed toward foreign coinage, I became intrigued with some of the pieces, mostly because of the vast differences in the quality of some of the coins -- even though these coins were from the same country.

One group of coins, given to me by brothers from Iran, were particularly interesting. Some of the coins were well struck, quite artistic and had the feel and sound of money, while others, of newer mintage, I liken to children's play money -- the kind you would purchase in toy stores. I asked the brothers why such a radical change took place with Iranian money and was quite taken back by a rather *"venomous"* reply, the gist of which was -- "as the government got more interested in themselves and less interested in the people, one of the first things that was changed was our money and they (the coins) make us look cheap to the rest of the world". Now I don't know if the brothers' statement is true -- but *THEY* believed it was.

I examined a number of the other foreign coins that I own, did a bit of historical research and found the brothers were not too far off the mark with their analysis.

Using my newly acquired information as a working hypothesis, I applied it to our own United States coinage. Since 1965, not quite two years after the assassination of President Kennedy, a peoples president, our coinage has been shamefully degraded, with the exception of the 5 cent piece, some 40% silver pieces and the special 90% silver pieces made primarily for

collectors. In addition to coins just mentioned, our government couldn't even leave the one cent piece alone. The best kept secret in our government, in recent years, was the change from a 100% copper cent to a zinc coin with a thin copper plating. To this day if you ask a non-collector what metal is in a *"penny"*, the answer will be copper. Maybe the CIA should take lessons from the mint regarding security.

Now I've read all the rhetoric about our coins must be "electrically compatible" with present vending machines -- I'm an electronic engineer and I consider that statement ludicrous -- BUT -- supposing for the sake of argument vending machines do need special consideration, why should I be forced to subsidize their business with the use of "junk" coins? After all, vendors selected their occupation so let them modify as the cost of doing business, just like every other business.

I have in my possession a complete collection of Kennedy fifty cent pieces. The set consists of 86 coins, 10 of which contain some silver bullion and have an intrinsic value of $11.16 (figuring silver at $5.25 per ounce). The balance of this collection, 76 coins, has an intrinsic value of approximately 3 cents each (based on today's copper prices). The 76 coins have a face value of $38.00 and an intrinsic value of $2.28. I wonder -- Let's try paying our foreign trading partners with our present crop of coins. We could reduce the national debt just on the difference between face and intrinsic value alone. *Note:* Does anyone remember why we initiated the Trade Dollar? China remembers.

It appears as no great mystery why our young people have lost interest in numismatics. They would much rather collect baseball cards, at least the cards have some color and history. Without new blood in the hobby to whom will the government sell those over-priced precious metal commemorative coins? -- *Nobody!*

In conclusion, and trying to be fair, I realize we will never return to a gold or silver standard due, of course, to market fluctuations in precious metal, but I do believe with all the scientific accomplishments of this nation we could devise an alloy where intrinsic value would approach face value, or at least *"LOOK"* like it does, and lay to rest America's period of *"funny money"*.

The ***Northern California Numismatic Association, Inc. (NCNA)*** has issued a wooden dollar to commemorate the 50th issue of the NCNA newsletter NCNA Heads and Tales.

Copies of the wooden dollar are available for 50¢ and a SASE from Gordon R. Donnell, 1960 Antonio, Berkeley, CA 94707.

EDITORIAL:
ARE LOCAL SHOWS SERVING THE HOBBY?

"In recent years I have found, much to my dismay, that many clubs have become apathetic."

--James Cornwall
Dealer

"...the coin shows of yesterday... cannot meet the needs and demands of today's collectors..."

--William A. Lenz Jr.
Chairman, Atlantic Rarities Expo

This month the Desert Inn Resort Hotel in Daytona Beach, Florida, will be the site of the Daytona Beach Winter Coin Convention, one of several numismatic shows held in January in this state. Surprisingly, this event is sponsored not by a local coin club, but by a private individual, namely me.

In recent years I have found, much to my dismay, that many clubs have become apathetic. Club members just don't have the time or inclination to organize, promote and conduct coin shows on a local level. I know of five area clubs that have ceased holding annual shows.

Obviously, as a dealer, part of my livelihood depends on the business I conduct at coin shows and conventions. However, these events serve a greater purpose: they introduce the non-collecting public to the numismatic hobby and offer collectors an opportunity to buy, sell and trade coins without traveling miles from home. They are essential to keeping the hobby alive.

Clubs that have abandoned their local shows are doing a great disservice to the hobby and the collector. Granted, some clubs have limited budgets and manpower, both very practical reasons for re-evaluating the feasibility of holding a show. However, some clubs make no effort whatsoever to educate the public and increase their rolls. I offer free bourse space at the Daytona Beach Winter Coin Convention to any club that would like a table. As of this writing, I have had no takers.

I do not expect to make a profit from this show; my only income is likely to come from transactions with visitors and other dealers there. But maybe someone attending the show will discover the fascination of coins and become a steady customer, an active coin club member and a firm supporter of the hobby. In the meantime, I hope clubs reconsider their mission and role in the hobby.

Local and regional coin shows are changing. Collectors, clubs and dealers are changing. In fact, the entire numismatic industry is changing.

The down side to these changes is that we in the numismatic community must recognize this evolutionary process and step into untested waters. Most of us are resistant to change, but we also know that change is inevitable. The Maryland State Numismatic Association (MSNA) realized that the coin shows of yesterday do not and cannot meet the needs and demands of today's collectors and dealers in a fluctuating marketplace.

I think many saw this change when the MSNA hosted the ANA World's Fair of Money® in Baltimore last summer. While everyone was enjoying themselves, we of the MSNA were trying to figure out how we could build and improve upon our own annual convention and show. For some time, we had witnessed -- and were a part of -- local clubs struggling with the costs and responsibilities of their own shows and trying to meet the needs of their changing membership.

Although we wanted to help local clubs and collectors with an annual show worthy of all our efforts, we recognized that even a state organization like ours might need some assistance. We have always had a great team of willing and very capable volunteers, but we knew that things could be improved upon. With this in mind, we approached the American Numismatic Association to utilize its expertise and management skills to produce the Atlantic Rarities Exposition, scheduled for June 24-26.

We foresee this change as good -- for collectors, clubs, dealers and the numismatic marketplace. The MSNA is venturing into uncharted territory, but we are doing so with the support of our members, local clubs and the ANA. We are changing to meet the wide variety of interests and needs of this great, ever-changing hobby.

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THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THE EAGLE

By Bob Kutcher

The white-headed eagle was once a common bird of prey found throughout the temperate and warmer regions of North America. Uncontrolled slaughter, destruction of nesting places and breaking of unhatched eggs have left few today. It was not until 1940 that a federal law was passed in the United States giving protection to this symbol of American ideals. Now a $500 fine will be levied on anyone harming the bird.

For many years, little was known of this bird with the pure white head. It is believed that they live for nearly 100 years, and that they mate for life. After about a 35 day incubation period, the eaglet is born and after another 10 to 13 weeks, it flies. For the first 1 to 2 years, the eagle is a smoke-gray color, not until it is 3 to 4 years old are the distinctive markings evident. The full-grown male is some 35 inches long, weighs about 8 pounds and has a 7 foot wing spread. The female is somewhat larger, weighing about 12 pounds.

The eagle, as a symbol of national prestige, has a long history dating from pre-Christian Persia. It was used on coins, seals, flags and standards throughout the Mediterranean area and gained its greatest prestige in Rome. As the Roman Empire spread, the symbolism of the eagle was carried throughout Europe. It was natural that the members of the United States Continental Congress of 1776, being of European heritage, chose the bald eagle as a national symbol rather than the wild turkey, as suggested by Benjamin Franklin.

The eagle symbolizes supreme authority and power, as well as strength and nobility. The bald eagle is featured on our coins, currency and official documents. The bald eagle in America's Great Seal holds olive branches with thirteen leaves and berries in its right talon to signify a preference for peace. Gripped in the left talon are thirteen arrows, feathered and pointed upward, to tell of the nation's preparedness to fight, if necessary, for its rights. The first Great Seal was used on September 16, 1782, although the device was not declared official until September 15, 1789, seven years later.

A U.S. $10 gold piece was known throughout the world as "an eagle" because it was a symbol of strength of both economy and government. The term "eagle" became so popular for gold that all gold coins except the one and three dollar pieces, because of denomination, were designated as the fractional part of "an eagle". The twenty was a "double eagle", a five was a "half eagle" and the two and a half dollar coin was a "quarter eagle".

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Robert Foppiano, Missouri

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40 YEARS OF NASC NUMISMATIC HISTORY

Part 1

FROM THE HISTORIAN'S FILES
THELMA M. CASE (1961-1976)
AND LEONORA DONALD (1976-PRESENT)

INTRODUCTION: OUR HUMBLE BEGINNING

In 1954 Southern California was growing in size and population. The number of coin dealers and collectors was also on the increase. Local coin clubs were springing up like spring wildflowers. California had more American Numismatic Association members than any other state. It was felt there was a definite need for a numismatic organization in this area. Several local dealers and collectors informally met and agreed, "the advantages of such an organization could have a way of helping promote the hobby in no way they could."

All interested parties were contacted. The first "official" meeting, as documented in our history books, was held at the Hayward Hotel in Los Angeles on July 31, 1955. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pro-Tem Karl M. Brainard. The following "twenty" were present: Karl Brainard, Scott McCormac, E.L. Sims, Lester Wollard, George Bennett, Earl Whitehead, Vincent Dieterle, C.A. Dunbar, W.R. Fanning, Oliver Garretson, Charles Johnson, Chas Jones, Sam Kabealo, I. Newton Sanders, J.D. Redberry, Abel Sampson, Russell Snyder, William Spence, Paul Weiger and Harold Donald as Secretary.

One of the first orders of business was the decision on a name for the new association. After much debate on various names, I. Newton Sander's suggestion -- THE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA -- was unanimously accepted.

Elections were next on the agenda. President, Scott McCormac; 1st Vice President, Earl G. Whitehead; 2nd Vice President, Lester Wollard; Secretary, Harold Donald; Treasurer, E.L. Simms. The other fifteen who signed in were elected to the Board.

Before adjourning, the NASC passed a motion to join the ANA; and the date for the next Board meeting was scheduled for September 25, 1955. At that time, the new association would consider working out a Constitution and set of By-laws.

The Constitution and By-laws of the NASC were officially adopted on November 28, 1955. The objectives

set forth therein were to advance the knowledge of numismatics historically, scientifically and educationally. It also encouraged gatherings to bring numismatists of Southern California together to advance these goals.

The first NASC Convention was held on February 17-19, 1956 at the Hotel Clark, located at 426 South Hill Street, Downtown Los Angeles. President Scott McCormac presided over the event which recorded 129 members and 100 visitors at the three day event. The Bourse Chairman was Karl Brainard. Auctioneer was S.J. Kabealo. I.N. Sanders headed the Awards Committee; Exhibits, C.A. Dunbar; Door Prizes, Abel Sampson; Banquet, Charles Johnson; Entertainment, W.R. Fanning; Registration, Harold Donald; Publicity, George Bennett (prior to his days as an auctioneer); and Grace Brainard and Thelma Case, Hospitality and Ladies Events.

Master of Ceremonies for the first banquet was Howard L. Stolper. He presented the officers and member clubs. The latter included: Bay Cities Coin Club, Douglas Coin Club, Long Beach Coin Club, Los Angeles Coin Club, San Gabriel Coin Club, San Fernando Coin Club and West Valley Coin Club. Adolph Larson, Jr. installed officers of the coin clubs. The Best in Show Exhibit Award went to Charles L. Ruby. The bourse fee was $20.00, something we could definitely live with today. The first $1.00 show admission was paid by Karl Brainard. It was taken by Registration Co-Chairmen Thelma Case and Leonora Donald.

Where the NASC blazed the trail, other associations have followed. The first issue of the *NASC Quarterly* was published in July of 1959 under the editorship of Eric G. Warner. The publication served to shape the numismatic development and influence of the association over the years. It has been honored as the Outstanding Regional Publication on several occasions. It has also served as a guide for many local club newsletters.

The year 1957 saw Earl Whitehead become president. The convention was again held at the Hotel Clark, with the bourse fee being raised to $25.00. This caused some grumbling amongst the dealers. Today, a fee in the neighborhood of $200.00 meets with little opposition, but $250.00, well look out! Eugene Cooper won Best of Show. The ladies, Thelma Case and Grace Brainard, took over Registration. They typed each badge for admission, some 245 in all, from 15 states and 2 foreign countries.

By 1957, 13 clubs were members of the NASC. A banquet ticket cost $3.75. The NASC put out its first hobby publication: "How To Start Collecting Coins, A Guide For Beginners."

(To be continued next issue)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

On May 12, 1961, Harold Donald, Paul Newell and Robin Martin met and agreed that there was a need for an organized ancient coin collecting society. The purpose of the club was for members to enjoy a mutual interest in ancient coins; to assist each other in acquiring knowledge and desirable coins; to discourage counterfeiting; to encourage members to display and speak at local clubs; and to have articles by members published in numismatic periodicals.

The name Southern California Ancient Numismatic Society, SCANS, was suggested by Robin Martin. In keeping with the particular interest of the club, we entered into the spirit of the subject by referring to our officers as rulers, with the president being Augustus; the vice-president, Caesar; the secretary, scriba; the treasurer, quaster; the governors, senators.

In 1964 SCANS was incorporated as a non-profit organization. At one time SCANS was a member of the ANA and a member of CSNA, NASC, COIN and SAN through 1993.

At first, meetings were held monthly in members' homes. In March 1962 as the membership grew, a room was rented at the Statler Hilton Hotel. In 1965, the Petrolium Club Room in the Statler Hotel became available at no cost, through one of our members, Sol Alexander. From 1972 on, SCANS has met at eight meeting places.

SCANS membership included some outstanding numismatists such as George Bennett, Joel Malter, Lee Sonner and Wayne Phillips. Over the past three years, the membership has changed; many members moving away and others passing away. On October 31, 1993, SCANS Board of Directors (the "Rulers") met and agreed that, because of the decline in attendance, to disband the club.

SERENDIPITY: COIN FINDS STIMULATE COLLECTING

By David L. Ganz
ANA President

A look in your pocket or change purse could unearth more than just something to plug the parking meter, make exact change or stuff in a vending machine. It could hold treasures just ready to be discovered.

Some rare coins have been taken out of circulation and forgotten in safe-deposit boxes, dresser drawers and piggy banks. Other very valuable treasures can't be found. For example, the American Numismatic Association (ANA) and collector Reed Hawn are offering a $10,000 finder's reward for the discovery of a missing 1913 Liberty Head nickel. Only five of these coins are known to exist and this one could be worth nearly $1 million. Also missing are the 1894-S dimes being sought by the Professional Numismatists Guild (PNG). It is believed that only 24 of these coins were originally struck, but the whereabouts of 15 of the coins are unknown. Each of the specimens is valued at about $100,000.

While these spectacular rarities may get special attention, other rarities await discovery. Many collectors start out in this hobby as I did, finding an odd looking coin in your change. In my case, I was 9 years old when I happened on an Indian Head cent in change from the Good Humor ice cream man. To senior collectors, such a discovery was once commonplace, but I'm in my early 40's so coming across a coin that hadn't been minted since 1909 was pretty amazing.

Even though that Indian Head cent will bring only 80 or 90 cents on the open market today, it is just one example of the interesting finds anticipated this Spring. In about three months, hundreds of collectors across the country will be priming the pump as part of the ANA's 1994 National Coin Week celebration -- "The World's Largest Treasure Hunt" -- April 17-23.

The ANA already has received commitments from members to put about 100,000 collector coins into daily circulation during National Coin Week. By April, that commitment surely can reach 200,000 rare and collectable coins just waiting to be discovered.

From personal experience, I know that once the numismatic search begins, the thrill of discovery never ends.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CLUBS

By David L. Ganz
ANA President

The very foundation of the American Numismatic Association is its clubs. In fact, the ANA is the world's largest coin club.

ANA founder Dr. George F. Heath was no more than a physician and an avid coin collector who wanted to broaden his knowledge, expand his collection and meet more collectors.

Early on in his writing, Dr. Heath stated, "There seems to be a universal need of some organization...for the benefit of the great mass of collectors. To weld together these (collectors) will be the work of the American Numismatic Association."

From Dr. Heath's idea of a national coin club, the ANA has grown today to become the world's biggest coin club, serving not only tens of thousands of individual collectors, but also helping more than 620 ANA-member clubs broaden the knowledge and interests of their nearly 20,000 combined members. The ANA is again reaching out for ideas to expand club programs by bringing Regional Coordinators to the 1994 Early Spring Convention in New Orleans, March 3-5, for a brainstorming session. The Lewis M. Reagan Foundation, directed by ANA Governor Kenneth Hallenbeck and Assistant ANA Treasurer Gerome Walton, is funding the cooperative club planning expenses, and the ANA is committed to funding the new club programs.

Like Dr. George Heath, you can expand your numismatic horizons in an ANA-member coin club.

****

(continued page 3)

If any club member would like a copy of the Cooperative Club Planning Seminar, give me a call at (818) 342-6304. I'll be happy to mail one.

THE *NASC QUARTERLY* IS LOOKING FOR A NEW EDITOR. WE HAVE AN AWARD-WINNING REGIONAL PUBLICATION THAT SPEAKS FOR THE HOBBY. WE NEED A VOLUNTEER TO TAKE OVER THE POSITION TO REPRESENT OUR ASSOCIATION AND HOBBY INTERESTS. THE JOB IS NOT DIFFICULT. IT ONLY REQUIRES GOOD ORGANIZATIONAL AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS.

In closing, let me encourage our member clubs to send a representative to the Quarterly Board meetings. The NASC is your organization. It needs your input, guidance and direction for the hobby.

Have fun with your hobby!

Walt Ostromecki
Editor Pro-Tem

LONG BEACH EXPO CONTINUES FREE ADMISSION TO COIN CLUB MEMBERS

CLUBS INVITED TO CONDUCT MEETINGS AT EXPO

Pleased with the success of an experimental new admission's policy at their show in February, organizers of the popular Long Beach Numismatic, Philatelic & Sports Card Exposition will continue to offer free admission for all coin club members.

The usual public admission fee of $3 per person will be waived at the June 2-5, 1994 show for anyone displaying a current membership card from any local, regional or national coin club.

"The free admission policy first was tried at last February's Expo, and about 25 percent of everyone who attended the show had a coin club membership card and entered free," said Expo President Paul L. Koppenhaver.

"Since then we've heard from additional clubs that are enthusiastic about the no-fee policy, and they also want to conduct meetings at the June show."

"We'll have more than a dozen club meetings and seminars in June. I think this is helping to revitalize the hobby by giving clubs and their members an opportunity to have the resources of a major numismatic event," Koppenhaver added.

Clubs interested in obtaining a complimentary meeting room and assistance in obtaining a guest speaker are invited to contact the Long Beach Expo at P.O. Box 34056, Granada Hills, CA 91394.

Arrangements also have been made to provide discounts on rates at nearby hotels and motels for out-of-town Expo visitors.

The June Expo will feature an appearance by Baseball Hall of Fame pitcher Whitey Ford and a half dozen other New York Yankees stars of the 1940's and 50's who will meet with fans and sign autographs.

In addition to Ford, sports guests will include Hank Bauer, Andy Carey, Tommy Henrich, Irv Noren, Bobby Richardson and Moose Skowron.

Founded in 1978, the Expo is held each February, June and October in the Long Beach, California Convention Center. The show is open to the public.

"Approximately 2,500 dealers from across the country and around the world will be buying and selling U.S. and world coins, currency, postage stamps and sports cards at more than 550 booths during the June Long Beach Expo," said Teresa Darling, Bourse Chair.

NUMISMATIC CALENDAR

NASC BOARD MEETINGS (1:30 P.M.)

April 16, 1994	Saturday	All meetings held at Culver City
August 7, 1994	Sunday	Veteran's Auditorium (Culver &
October 30, 1994	Sunday	Overland) in the Multi-Purpose Room, Culver City, California

COIN SHOWS

April 16-17, 1994	Sacramento Valley Coin Club La Sierra Community Center 5325 Eagle Road Carmichael, California FREE
April 24, 1994	Covina Coin Club 33rd Annual Coin-O-Rama Joslyn Center 815 North Barranca Avenue Covina, California FREE
May 1, 1994	Vallejo Numismatic Society 22nd Annual Show Dan Foley Park Vallejo, California FREE
May 13-15, 1994	Glendale Coin & Stamp Expo Glendale Civic Auditorium 1401 Verdugo Road Glendale, California $2.00 Admission
May 15, 1994	Heartland Coin Club Show Valley Masonic Temple 695 Ballantyne El Cajon, California FREE

June 2-5, 1994	Long Beach Numismatic & Philatelic Expo Long Beach Convention Center 300 East Ocean Boulevard Long Beach, California $3.00 - Public *Coin Club Members with Membership Card are FREE
June 11-12, 1994	Gateway Coin Club 20th Annual Show Mall, Olive and R Streets Merced, California FREE
July 27-31, 1994	ANA - 103rd Anniversary Convention Cobo Hall Detroit, Michigan FREE
October 23, 1994	West Valley Coin Club 35th Annual Coin-O-Rama Airtec Plaza Hotel Van Nuys, California FREE

CLUB REPORT

By Dr. Thomas F. Fitzgerald

Dr. Thomas Fitzgerald resigned on March 17, 1994 as Club News Editor. President Bill Grant is seeking a replacement. This feature will return in the next issue. We apologize for any inconvenience.

MUSEUM CLOSURE MEETS WITH OPPOSITION

The numismatic world was surprised and saddened on December 29, 1993, when the United States Mint announced it was closing the Old San Francisco Mint Museum, citing security concerns, operating expenses and unprofitability of the Mint Sales Center. Established by an Act of Congress in 1852, the "Granite Lady" at 88 Fifth Street in San Francisco has survived the devastation of two earthquakes, fire and years of abandonment and controversy, but she might not weather this latest affront.

The structure has become a sentimental landmark for city dwellers. Immediately following the 1906 earthquake and fires, the San Francisco Mint was the only financial institution capable of functioning as a depository and treasury for relief funds. As reported in the January 18, 1994, issue of *Numismatic News*, "It became bank and clearing house for all remittances to and from the city and disbursements within San Francisco. Further, it administered the relief fund. By the following year, it was again striking most gold and silver denominations."

In 1937 the building was abandoned by the Mint in favor of more spacious facilities, and in 1968 it was declared surplus. In a hard-won battle following years of contention, President Richard M. Nixon had the structure declared a historic preserve, and a new chapter in the Granite Lady's life began.

After renovations in the early 1970s, Mint employees in the "Special Coins and Medals" and "Computer" divisions reoccupied part of the building, and on June 16, 1973, the Old Mint Museum was officially reopened. Then Mint Director Mary Brooks spearheaded efforts to preserve the building and was instrumental in the structure's revival.

A favorite destination for school-children and numismatists alike, the museum housed numerous exhibits, including the Clifford-Kagin collection of pioneer gold pieces and related items, a collection of U.S. silver commemorative coins and historic minting equipment and artifacts. Ironically, the museum's most popular display, featuring $4 million in gold, was cited as one of the reasons for the closure.

In its December 29 announcement, the United States Mint stated, "A recent security review found that the gold...was too attractive a target and imposed a significant security risk." The decision immediately was attacked from several directions.

In an editorial appearing in *Coin World* on January 17, 1994, editor Beth Deisher says, "U.S. Mint officials' decision to abruptly close the Old San Francisco Mint Museum to the public *may* be penny wise, but it is certainly pound foolish!...

Noticeably absent from the statement was any concern over numismatic heritage and the museum's educational role. Thus, we must ask, at what price is our heritage calculated?"

American Numismatic Association President David L. Ganz says, "It's an error at a time when museums all over the country are trying to teach and educate. We [at the ANA] deplore any decision that will limit viewing of numismatics by the public at any time."

Two former U.S. Mint officials also have criticized the decision. "If it's their judgment that they should take some action, all right. But give the right reasons," says Carol Mayer Marshall, Superintendent of the San Francisco Mint from 1990-1993. "In this instance, I felt very strongly they weren't giving the real reasons." Former Mint Director Donna Pope also questions the move. "How much money is really going to be saved by closing the museum?" she asks.

For now, the cries of protestation have been heard and acknowledged. One day after the January 3 closure, Secretary of the Treasury Lloyd Bentsen ordered the U.S. Mint to reopen the museum for 90 days while its future is decided. In a joint letter to Bentsen, California Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, along with Representative Nancy Pelosi, denounced the abrupt closure. According to the January 24 issue of *Coin World*, "The letter described the museum as 'an invaluable resource' and 'a wonderful landmark.' It also noted that the California Historical Society has stepped forward and volunteered to consider managing the museum and that other groups are considering formation of a private consortium to save the building."

Those interested in securing the Granite Lady's heritage might be able to parlay the stay of execution into something more permanent. As Deisher says, "Collectors joined Mary Brooks once and saved the Old San Francisco Mint. If it is to be saved as a museum, collectors will have to close ranks again and let Secretary of the Treasury Lloyd Bentsen know we care. Ask him to reopen the Old Mint Museum." Write to Bentsen at Main Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20220.

HELEN L. CARMODY

In honor of her dedication, sacrifice, contagious enthusiasm and brilliant representation on behalf of the entire ANA representative program and all other collectors, the American Numismatic Association is proud to present the first Outstanding Regional Coordinator Award to **HELEN CARMODY,** ANA Governor, collector and hobby enthusiast par excellence.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
UNITED STATES MINT
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March 4, 1994

Mr. Walter Ostromecki, Jr.
President
Numismatic Association of Southern California
5914 Hesperia Avenue
Encino, CA 91316

Dear Mr. Ostromecki:

Thank you for your February 21 letter to the Secretary of the Treasury expressing your concerns regarding the closing of the Old Mint Museum and Sales Center in San Francisco.

The Mint has received other letters from concerned citizens and organizations, as well as from members of the California congressional delegation. In response, the Secretary of the Treasury announced a 90-day extension of the closing date to allow time for all interested parties and the U.S. Mint to confer on options for the Museum and the building.

Please be assured that we will work closely with your elected representatives and others as to all future plans.

Sincerely,

Eugene H. Essner
Deputy Director of the Mint

(continued on page 40)

TEST YOUR SKILLS!

Jog your memory of numismatically related terms by finding the words in the puzzle. Read the 67 listed terms forward, backward, up, down or diagonally. Good Luck!

W Y A B O U T G O O D E T A T S T N I M B
O T L U R E E C L A D U F L O W L I N E S
R E L F I Y N R O H U B Y T R E B I L R G
K I E F M G C I R M E D A L S T N I O C R
I R T A U H E E F O M L I N C O L N B U A
N A S L E D G E O O R E K R A H Y B E R D
G V S O F K R A M T N I M N E U O O O Y E
D O L L A R A R E S T H N O T D C I L E L
I D N E G E L W E B C E N S R E B T C L G
E E C B O U R S E O A I O I T A N O I E A
S B N I M O N E Y L M O T T O R T O O O E
R A E T A E H W I D O B G A B C I I R K N
E S N Y A P H N F E I V N T M F E K V O A
V E A A I I G R I P L E I R I S O N E E C
E D O L Z N S O A P G R H E F N I O T C I
R E F Z L G E D T I A S S T E L U M R V R
S D I E C M G O L D T E A S P O O R U P E
E N M P A L E K C I N A W U B A L S N N M
G I C C O L O R N O I T A L U C R I C N A

1. ABOUT GOOD
2. ANNEALING
3. ALLOY
4. AMERICAN EAGLE
5. ANA
6. AUCTION
7. BIT
8. BOURSE
9. BUFFALO
10. CIRCULATION
11. CLAD
12. CAMEO
13. CENT
14. CHOICE
15. COIN
16. CORONET
17. COLOR
18. COMMEMORATIVE
19. DEBASED
20. DIE
21. DIPPED
22. DOLLAR
23. ERROR
24. EDGE
25. FIAT
26. FINE
27. FLIP
28. FLOW LINES
29. GRADE
30. GICC
31. GOLD
32. HUB
33. INTAGLIO
34. LUSTER
35. LARGECENT
36. LEGEND
37. LIBERTY
38. LINCOLN
39. MEDALS
40. MINTSTATE
41. MERCURY
42. MINT MARK
43. MOTTO
44. MULE
45. NUMISMATICS
46. NICKEL
47. OBVERSE
48. MONEY
49. PVC
50. POOR
51. PROOF
52. PCGS
53. REDBOOK
54. REVERSE
55. RIM
56. SLAB
57. SLUG
58. STELLA
59. STRIKE
60. UNC
61. TIN
62. VARIETY
63. WHEAT EAR
64. WORKING DIES
65. WASHINGTON
66. WEB
67. WHIZZING

Leftover letters (reading left to right) spell out a famous numismatic quote:
Answer in the next issue.
(Clue: Be careful, 3 words show up twice.)

N.A.S.C. 40TH ANNIVERSARY

NASC
ADVERTISING RATES

Contract rates are for ads running in each issue of the N.A.S.C. *Quarterly* for a one year term. Single issue prices are for one specified issue of the *Quarterly*. All copy must be camera-ready and the exact sizes are indicated below. Photos, coins or logos must be submitted in halftones.

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Send materials and queries to:
NASC Advertising Manager
Box 3637 Thousand Oaks, CA. 91360-0367

NASC CLUB DIRECTORY

(This directory is constantly being updated. If any changes or additions should be made, please write to the Editor.)

AMERICAN BRITISH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY — (Meeting time & place not available); Mailing Address: P.O. Box 652, Saugus, CA 91350-0652.

ANAHEIM COIN CLUB — Meets 3rd Wed., 7:30 p.m., Brookhurst Community Center, 2271 W. Crescent Ave., Anaheim (West of Brookhurst St.); Mailing Address: Box 847, Anaheim, CA 92805-0847.

ANCIENT COIN CLUB OF L.A. — Mailing Address: Box 227, Canoga Park, CA 91305.

BAKERSFIELD COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Tues., 7:00 p.m., 1130 M Street (YMCA Bldg.), Bakersfield; Mailing Address: Box 1535, Bakersfield, CA 93301.

BAY CITIES COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Sun., 2:00 p.m., Santa Monica Public Library; Sixth & Santa Monica Blvd.,Santa Monica; Mailing Address: Box 943, Santa Monica, CA 90406.

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF TOKEN COLLECTORS — Meets 3rd Sat. or Sun. of odd-numbered months, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at members' homes and other locations. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 66331, Los Angeles, CA 90066.

CALIFORNIA EXONUMIST SOCIETY — Meets quarterly at GSCS & CSNA conventions; All day show in June or July; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 295, Patton, CA 92369.

CALIFORNIA STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION — Meets twice a year during CSNA conventions at various locations; Mailing Address: 3945 N. Bradford, Sp. 75, La Verne, CA 91750.

CALTECH-JPL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY — Meets 3rd Wed., 7:30 p.m., Chruch Lab, Cal Tech Campus, Pasadena; Mailing Address: Rex D. Wells T1605, 4800 Oak Grove Ave.; Pasadena, CA 91103.

COLLECTORS OF THE REALM — Meets 1st Thurs., 8:00 p.m., The Elegant Manor, 3115 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 29092, Hollywood, CA 90029.

COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATICS (C.O.I.N.) — Meets annually at Golden State Coin Show, plus three Board meetings a year; Mailing Address: Mary Yahalom, P.O. Box 3637, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359.

COVINA COIN CLUB — Meets 3rd Wed., 8:00 p.m., Covina Park Recreation Hall, 340 Valencia, Covina; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 63, Upland, CA 91785.

CULVER CITY COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Thrus., 8:00 p.m., Veteran's Memorial Bldg., Uruapan Room, Culver and Overland, Culver City; Mailing Address: Paul Borack, 3125 W. Washington Blvd., Marina Del Rey, CA 90292.

DOWNEY NUMISMATISTS — Meets 4th Mon., 7:30 p.m., California Federal S & L, 8211 Firestone Blvd., Downey; Mailing Address: Box 165, Downey, CA 90241.

FONTANA UNITED NUMISMATISTS — Meets 2nd Fri., 7:30 p.m., Ayala Rec. Park, Valley Blvd., Bloomington, CA 92316; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1510, Redlands, CA 92373.

GARDEN GROVE COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Wed., 7:30 p.m., Fullerton Savings & Loan, 12860 Euclid (1 block north of Garden Grove Blvd.), Garden Grove; Mailing Address: 2315 Mira Ct #133, Anaheim, CA 92802.

GLENDALE COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Fri., 7:30 p.m., Glendale Federal Savings & Loan, 401 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale; Mailing Address: 131 Tujunga, CA 91043.

HEARTLAND COIN CLUB — Meets 3rd Wed., 6:30 p.m., Bostonia Park Recreation Bldg., El Cajon; Mailing Address: c/o Don Pimentel, 9313 Mission Gorge Rd., Santee, CA 92071.

HEMET NUMISMATISTS — Meets 3rd Wed., 1:30 p.m., 1st Presbyterian Church, Family Center, 158 S. Buena Vista, Hemet; Mailing Address: P. O Box 3082, Hemet, CA 92546.

ISRAEL COIN CLUB OF L.A. — Meets 1st Sun., 1:00 p.m., Cal Federal Savings & Loan, 9696 Wilshire Blvd.; Mailing Address: Sally Marx, P.O. Box 227, Canoga Park, CA 91305.

ISREAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF LOS ANGELES - Meets 3rd Thursday 8:00 p.m. First Federal Saving, 464 N. Fairfax Los Angeles; Mailing Address: 732 S. Curson "7E" Los Angeles CA. 90036.

LAGUNA HILLS COIN CLUB — Meets 1st Mon., 7:30 p.m. Laguna Hills Leisure World Clubhouse No. 3, Dining Room No. 1 (through Gate No. 1, El Toro Road), Laguna Hills; Mailing Address: P. O. Box 2070, Laguna Hills, CA 92653.

LEISURE WORLD COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Wed., 1:30 p.m., Clubhouse No. 3, Room 2, Seal Beach Leisure World; Mailing Address: c/o Henry Glunz, 1231 Golden Rain Road, #70, Seal Beach, CA 90740.

LERC (LOCKHEED) NUMISMATIC SOCIETY — Meets 1st and 3rd Wed. 7:30 p.m., Lockheed Recreation Center, 2814 Empire, Burbank; Mailing Address: c/o E. Gagnon, 1328 J. Lee Circle, Glendale, CA 91208.

LITTON COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Fri., 7:30 p.m., 5500 Canoga Ave., Bldg. 32, Room #3, Woodland Hills; Mailing Address: c/o Walt Wegner, Box 521, Woodland Hills, CA 91365.

LONG BEACH COIN CLUB — Meets 1st Mon., 7:30 p.m., Los Altos United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall; 5950 E. Willow St., Long Beach; Mailing Address: P. O. Box 8101, Long Beach, CA 90808.

LOS ANGELES COIN CLUB — Meets 1st Fri., 8:00 p.m., First Federal Savings & Loan, 465 N. Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles; Mailing Address: Box 3637, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359.

NORTH HOLLYWOOD COIN CLUB — Meets 1st Mon., 7:30 p.m., Mercury Savings & Loan, 5201 Laurel Canyon Blvd., N. Hollywood; Mailing Address: Box 227, Canoga Park, CA 91305.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION — Meets annually in September, Cathedral Hill Hotel, San Francisco; Mailing Address: Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590.

NORTHROP AIRCRAFT DIVISION COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Mon., 7:30 p.m., Northrop Rec. Clubhouse, on Crenshaw between 120th & Broadway, Hawthorne; Mailing Address: 11260 Overland Ave., #208, Culver City, CA 90230.

***ORANGE COAST COIN CLUB** — Meets 3rd Thurs., 7:30 p.m., Westminster Elks Lodge, 6391 Industry Way, Westminster; Mailing Address: Box 2335, Huntington Beach, CA 92647.

ORANGE COUNTY COIN CLUB — Meets 4th Wed., 8:00 p.m., Community Room, Fullerton Savings, 1805 West Orangethorpe Ave. (at Brookhurst), Fullerton; Mailing Address: Box 2004, Santa Ana, CA 92707.

PICO RIVERA CLUB — Meets 2nd Tues., Security National Bank, Rosemead Square, Rosemead; Mailing Address: 8555 Marshall St., Rosemead, CA 91770

REDLANDS COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Tues., 7:00 p.m., Smiley Library, 125 W. Vine St., Redlands; Mailing Address: Box 1510, Redlands, CA 92373.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY COIN CLUB — Meets 3rd Thurs., 7:30 p.m. San Bernardino County Museum, Fisk Auditorium (I-10 & California St. to Museum), San Bernardino; Mailing Address: P. O. 1028, Colton, CA 92324.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Wed., 8:00 p.m., Pasadena Elks Lodge, 400 W. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5207, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413.

SANTA ANA COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Fri., 7:30 p.m., Tustin Senior Center, 200 South "C" Street, Tustin; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2073, Santa Ana, CA 92707.

SANTA BARBARA COIN CLUB — Meets 4th Mon. except July and September, 7:30 p.m., MacKenzie Park Recreation Building, 101 Frwy & Las Positas to McCaw Ave., Santa Barbara; Mailing Address: Box 745, Santa Barbara, CA 93102.

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATICS — Meets 2nd Sun., 2:00 p.m., Santa Monica Public Library; Sixth & Santa Monica, Santa Monica; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 943, Santa Monica, CA 90406.

SOUTHEASTERN SIERRA COIN CLUB — Meets 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m., Bank of America Conference Room, Bishop; Mailing Address: P. O. Box 1511, Bishop, CA 93514.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOCIETY — Meets 4th Sun., 1:30 p.m., Coast Federal Bank, 10101 Riverside Drive, Taluca Lake, CA; Mailing Address: P. O. Box 570552, Tarzana, CA 91357.

TUSTIN COIN CLUB — Meets 1st Fri., 7:30 p.m., Tustin Senior Center, 200 South "C" Street, Tustin; Mailing Address: Box 855, Garden Grove, CA 92642.

UPLAND COIN CLUB — Meets 3rd Sat., 8:00 p.m., Magnolia Recreation Center, 651 W. 15th St., Upland; Mailing Address: P. O. Box 63, Upland, CA 91785.

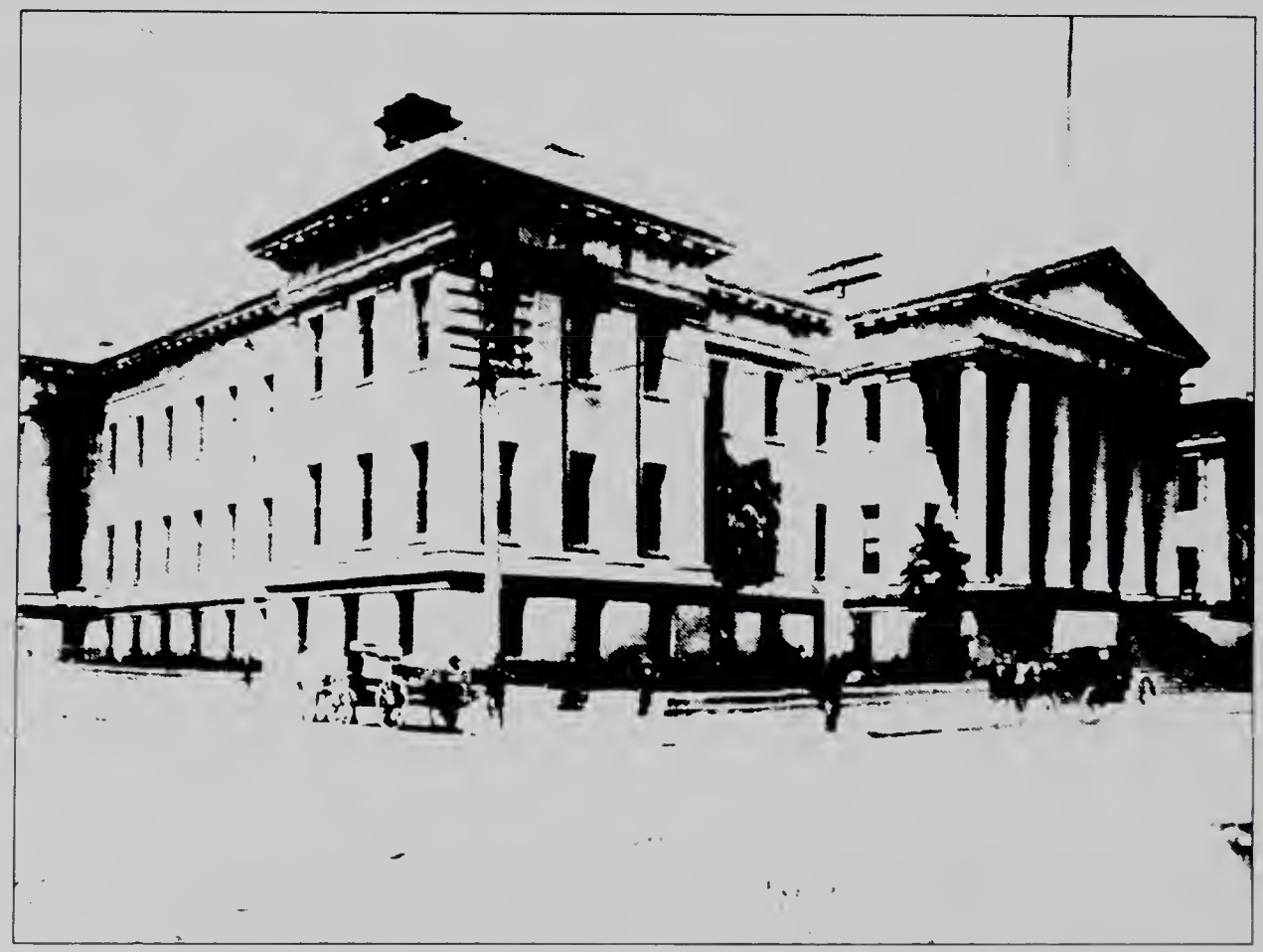
VENTURA COUNTY COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m., Church of Christ, Auxiliary Room, 5401 Telegraph Road, Ventura, CA 93006; Mailing Address: P. O. Box 3263, Ventura, CA 93003.

VERDUGO HILLS COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Mon., 7:30 p.m., Glendale Federal Savings & Loan, 2350 Honolulu Ave., Montrose; Mailing Address: P. O. Box 26, Tujunga, CA 91043.

WEST VALLEY VOIN CLUB — Meets 3rd Sun., 2:00 p.m., Reseda Moose Lodge Post #1738, 7144 Balboa Blvd. (at Sherman Way), Van Nuys; Mailing Address: Box 4159, Panorama City, CA 91412.

WHITTIER COIN CLUB — Meets 2nd Fri., 7:30 p.m., Parnell Park, Lambert Road & Scott Ave., Whittier; Mailing Address: 15540 E. Lambert Road, Whittier, CA 90604.

* Information changed since last publication in the Quarterly.



Plans to close the historic Old Mint Museum in San Francisco surprised many numismatists. The building, located at 88 Fifth Street, has long been a favorite place for schoolchildren and collectors to visit.

WHY JOIN THE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA?

Organized in 1954, the Numismatic Association of Southern California is a non-profit organization dedicated to the education and welfare of scholars and collectors of coins and other numismatic materials. It serves the Southern California collecting fraternity and its 58 member clubs. Membership is open to all, even those who reside outside its geographical region.

The Magazine, ***The N.A.S.C. Quarterly***, is published four times a year and distributed to members free of charge. News of the Association, including convention coverage; educational articles; coin trends; junior activities; member club reports and numismatic events; and dealer advertisements are included in the magazine.

At the yearly January Convention, the Association holds a member club benefit gold drawing and presents a number of numismatic awards: Karl M. Brainard Memorial Literary Award for the most outstanding article published in the Quarterly; The President's Trophy for the best member club monthly newsletter; The Richard P. Goodson Award for the individual(s) who have best contributed to numismatics through the N.A.S.C.; and the Maurice M. Gould Junior Achievement Award to the Association's outstanding young numismatist.

The Association holds an annual Convention in the Los Angeles area, which is open to the public, issues a commemorative show theme medal, hosts many outstanding educational forums featuring some of the finest nationally known speakers, features a large dealer bourse from all over the United States and outstanding competitive exhibits. Collectors who display materials in several categories vie for the coveted Abe Kosoff Memorial Best-In-Show Award. Juniors compete for the Junior Best-In-Show sponsored by Galaxie Designs.

In addition to the yearly Convention, the Association sponsors a numismatic workshop for both collectors and non-collectors.

Officers and members are available on the Association's Speaker's List to present educational programs in many fields, or member clubs may use slide programs held by their Visual Education Chairman.

Attached is an application for membership in the Numismatic Association of Southern California. Regular dues are $10.00 a year for individuals and clubs. Why not join us, today!

ACTIVE MEMBER.....$10.00
JUNIOR MEMBER.....$10.00
CLUB MEMBER.....$10.00
SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP.....$125.00

Harold Katzman
NASC Corresponding Secretary
Box 725
Tustin, CA 92680-0725

NO. DATE

Application For Membership

in the

Numismatic Association of Southern California

Print Name _____ Occupation _____

Mailing Address _____ Jr. ☐ (Under 18)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Sponsored By _____ Applicant Signature _____

I herewith make application for membership in the above society, subject to the constitution and by-laws of same, and enclose herewith $ _____

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